Crafty KATE of COLCHESTER:

OR, THE

False hearted Clothier Frighted into good manners.

Tune of, the Jealous Lover, or Languishing Swain. *Licensed according to Order.*

YOU that in merriment delight,
Pray listen now to what I write,
They will you satisfaction find,
to Cure a melancholly mind.

A Damsel liv'd in *Colchester*,
And there a Clothier Courted her,
For two months space both night and day,
And yet the Damsel said him nay.

the Clothier's son as then Reply'd,
If you Refuse to be my bride,
it soon will prove my Overthrow,
then dearest do not answer no.

Said she were I to Love inclin'd,
perhaps you soon would change your mind
And Court some other Damsel fair,
For men are falese i do declare

by all that's good my dearest love
I never will unfaithful prove,
then grant me what i do request,
So shall we both be ever blest.

He many protestations made,
And like a loyal lover said
There's none but thee shall be my Wife,
The joy and comfort of my life.

This said at length she gave consent,
To marry him, their wife they went.
Unto her friends and Parents who
Did grant their love and liking too,

But see the fruits of cursed gold,
He left his loyal love behold
With sighs and sorrows compass'd round,
When he a greater fortune found

A Lawyer's Daughter fair and free,
Her Parents joy and heart delight,
He was resolv'd to make his sport,
Denying all his former Vows,

Now When the damsel came to know,
That she must lose her only dear,
And for the Lawyer's Daughters sake.
Thought she soon upon what shift to make,

She knew that e'ry night he came
Unto his most love Mary by Name,
Therefore as he a Clock or more,

She borrow'd there an old Cow-Hide,
With crooked horns both large and wide,
And having wrapt her self therein,
She did her new intreague begin.

she in a lonesome Field did stay,
the Clothier came at length that way,
Where he was sorely fear'd by her
She look'd to like old *Lucifer*.

A hairy Hide, Horns on her head,
Which full three foot asunder spread,
Besides he see a long black tail,
He strove to run but feet did fail.

She quickly seiz'd him by the Coat,
then with a grim and dreadful Note
She cry'd you leave poor *Kate*, I hear,
And woo the Lawyer's Daughter dear,

since you have been so false to her,
You perjur'd Knave of *Colchester*,
you shall whether you will or no,
Unto my gloomy Region go.

this voice did so affrighten him,
that there he trembl'd e'ry Limb;
Sweet Mother Devil spare me now,
And I'll perform my former vow.

I'll make you *Kate* my lawful bride;
Well see you do she Devil cry'd,
Or you shall hear of me again,
If *Kate* against you does complain.

then home he went, tho' very late,
He never imagin'd this was *Kate*,
that put him into such a fright,
therefore next day by morning light,

He went to *Kate* and married her,
For fear of this old *Lucifer*:
Her friends and parents thought it strange
there should be such a sudden change,

Kate still was her parents know,
Nor any other friend so few,
did think that she had married been,
then said it was her Gossiping.

It pleas'd the women to the heart,
who told the brewis play'd her part,
Her Husband laugh'd at [illegible]
this was [illegible]

(1688-95)